

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0038] A portable carrier for a disk drive including power control circuitry to enable a hot-plug connection between an external connector on the carrier and an opposing carrier mating connector on the back panel of an enclosure of a data storage system of the kind that is typically part of a file server, so that the disk drive can be powered from 5 and 12 volt power buses within the enclosure, but without damaging the disk drive or the opposing connectors at the moment of contact therebetween as a consequence of a current surge. The power control circuitry includes a timer and 5 volt and 12 volt carrier power switches (e.g., MOSFETs) that are respectively connected between the 5 volt and 12 volt power buses of the enclosure and the disk drive. Following a particular time delay, the timer generates an ENABLE signal to cause the carrier power switches to be rendered conductive to thereby complete current paths between the 5 volt and 12 volt power buses and the disk drive so that the disk drive can operate normally and communicate with a host computer of the data storage system.